<u>**Amendments to the Claims:**</u>

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

<u>**Listing of Claims:**</u>

1. (Currently Amended) A method for providing location data concerning optimal parking spaces according to a user profile, comprising the steps of:

retentively storing a user profile in a profile database, wherein said user profile <u>is stored for</u> <u>multiple retrievals at each of two or more successive times, and</u> contains at least one user preference concerning preferred parking <u>space</u> parameters ~~that pertain to a parking space~~<u>: selected from a group that</u> <u>includes at least one of an indication of whether a pole is on one side of the parking space, a distance from</u> <u>an elevator lobby, a distance from an entrance or exit, and an indicator of whether the parking space is on</u> <u>an end of a row</u>;

providing a parking database including data concerning parking parameters for each of a plurality of parking spaces under the control of a parking management system;

determining a list of available parking spaces;

responsive to a user communication with the parking management system, retrieving from said profile database a previously stored user profile containing said at least one user preference~~, and~~<u>, wherein</u> <u>said retrieval follows at least one previous retrieval of said user profile that was associated with at least</u> <u>one prior use of one of said parking spaces by said user; and</u>

responsive to said user communication with the parking management system, providing an optimal available parking space based on the previously stored user profile, the parking database, and the list of available parking spaces.

2. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said previously stored user profile containing said at least one user preference includes an identification of a user.

3. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the data concerning preferred parking parameters includes a set of parameters and, for each parameter within the set of parameters, a preference value and a priority.

4. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the user profile is a default profile.

5.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said previously stored user profile containing said at least one user preference is selected in response to receiving an identification of a user.

6.   (Original) The method of claim 5, wherein the identification of the user is received by one of a card reader and a keypad interface.

7.   (Canceled)

8.   (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein determining a list of available parking spaces includes receiving sensor information from a plurality of sensors, wherein each sensor within the plurality of sensors indicates whether a given parking space is occupied.

9.   (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein providing an optimal available parking space includes outputting the optimal available parking space to an output device.

10.   (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein output device is one of a display and a printer.

11.   (Currently Amended) An apparatus for providing location data concerning optimal parking spaces according to a user profile, the apparatus comprising:

        a parking management system;

        a profile database for retentively storing a user profile, wherein said user profile is stored for multiple retrievals at each of two or more successive times, and [[that]] contains at least one user preference concerning preferred parking space parameters ~~that pertain to a parking space; and~~, selected from a group that includes at least one of an indication of whether a pole is on one side of the parking space, a distance from an elevator lobby, a distance from an entrance or exit, and an indicator of whether the parking space is on an end of a row;

        a parking database including data concerning parking parameters for each of a plurality of parking spaces under the control of a parking management system,

        wherein the parking management system determines a list of available parking spaces, and, in response to a user communication with the parking management system, retrieves from said profile database a previously stored user profile containing said at least one user preference, wherein said retrieval follows at least one previous retrieval of said user profile that was associated with at least one prior use of one of said parking spaces by said user and, in further response to said user communication,

provides an optimal available parking space based on the previously stored user profile, the parking database, and the list of available parking spaces.

12.   (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 11, wherein said previously stored user profile containing said at least one user preference includes an identification of a user.

13.   (Original) The apparatus of claim 11, wherein the data concerning preferred parking parameters includes a set of parameters and, for each parameter within the set of parameters, a preference value and a priority.

14.   (Original) The apparatus of claim 11, wherein the user profile is a default profile.

15.   (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 11, wherein said previously stored user profile containing said at least one user preference is selected in response to receiving an identification of a user.

16.   (Original) The apparatus of claim 15, wherein the identification of the user is received by one of a card reader and a keypad interface.

17.   (Canceled)

18.   (Original) The apparatus of claim 11, wherein the parking management system receives sensor information from a plurality of sensors, wherein each sensor within the plurality of sensors indicates whether a given parking space is occupied.

19.   (Original) The apparatus of claim 11, wherein the parking management system outputs the optimal available parking space to an output device.

20.   (Original) The apparatus of claim 11, wherein the output device is one of a display and a printer.

21.   (Currently Amended) A computer program product, executable by a computer readable medium, for providing location data concerning optimal parking spaces according to a user profile, the computer program product comprising:
        instructions for retentively storing a user profile in a profile database, wherein said user profile is stored for multiple retrievals at each of two or more successive times, and contains at least one user

preference concerning preferred parking space parameters selected from a group that includes at least one of an indication of whether a pole is on one side of the parking space, a distance from an elevator lobby, a distance from an entrance or exit, and an indicator of whether the parking pace is on an end of a row;

instructions for providing a parking database including data concerning parking parameters for each of a plurality of parking spaces under the control of a parking management system;

instructions for determining a list of available parking spaces; [[and]]

~~instructions, responsive to a user communication with a parking management system, for providing an optimal available parking space based on a user profile retentively stored in a profile database, wherein said user profile contains at least one user preference concerning preferred parking parameters that pertain to a parking space, a parking database including data concerning parking parameters for each of a plurality of parking spaces under the control of a parking management system, and the list of available parking spaces.~~

instructions responsive to a user communication with the parking management system, for retrieving from said profile database a previously stored user profile containing said at least one user preference, wherein said retrieval follows at lest one previous retrieval of said user profile that was associated with at least one prior use of one of said parking spaces by said user; and

instructions responsive to said user communication with the parking management system, for providing an optimal available parking space based on the previously stored user profile, the parking database, and the list of available parking spaces.